



**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF AUGUSTA COUNTY, VIRGINIA**

WHEREAS, MeadWestvaco and Hershey Chocolate have both expressed their intent and desire to the Augusta County Board of Supervisors to expand their commercial, business or industrial operations in Augusta County; and

WHEREAS, MeadWestvaco and Hershey Chocolate will require expanded rail access; and

WHEREAS, the officials of MeadWestvaco and Hershey Chocolate have reported to the county their intent to apply for industrial access railroad track funds from the Commonwealth of Virginia's Department of Rail and Public Transportation in the amount of \$450,000 each; and

WHEREAS, MeadWestvaco and Hershey Chocolate have requested that the Augusta County Board of Supervisors provide resolutions supporting their applications for said funds which are administered by the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation.

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), on November 16, 1995, adopted the policies and procedures for providing funding through the Industrial Access Railroad Tracks Program which is intended to be used as an incentive to encourage industrial or commercial development in the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the CTB adopted policy for the Industrial Access Railroad Tracks Program, Program Administration Section II-E Allocation of Funds states that no more than \$450,000 of the funds shall be allocated to any one county, town, or city in any fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the Augusta County Board of Supervisors and County Staff have worked diligently to maintain and grow employment and industrial/commercial development in the County during trying economic times for the County, the Commonwealth, and the nation; and

WHEREAS, the MeadWestvaco and the Hershey Chocolate projects, if funded by the CTB, will contribute to the economic stability of the County; and

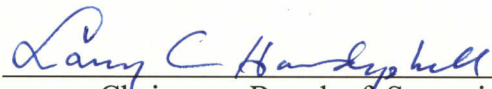
WHEREAS, both of these projects are being developed and built simultaneously necessitating funding for these projects during this construction season.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Augusta County Board of Supervisors hereby endorses and supports the applications of MeadWestvaco for \$450,000 and Hershey Chocolate for \$450,000 in Industrial Access Railroad Track Funds; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Augusta County Board of Supervisors hereby requests consideration of the Commonwealth Transportation Board to waive, in these difficult economic times, its limitations identified in Section II-E Allocation of Funds and support the County in stimulating the economy of the region.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board of Supervisors of Augusta County, Virginia hereby makes known its desire and intent to assist the Commonwealth Transportation Board in providing the maximum financial assistance to MeadWestvaco and Hershey Chocolate for the purpose of expanding its business, commercial or industrial facilities in Augusta County.

Adopted: March 11, 2009

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Larry C. Handysell", is written over a horizontal line.

Chairman, Board of Supervisors of
Augusta County, Virginia